REMARKS

Claims 1-8 and 24 remain in the application, and claims 1 and 24 have been amended hereby. Claims 9-23 have been canceled, without prejudice or disclaimer.

Claims 9-23 have been canceled, thereby rendering the rejection thereof moot.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 1, 6, and 24 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al.

Features of the data distribution system according to the present invention are to divide, at an information service center, a desired program into an outline part and a supplement part and to transmit the outline part first followed by the supplement part to a terminal equipment.

At the terminal equipment, the outline part is received first followed by the supplement part of the desired program, the outline part and the supplement part are recombined to restore and store the desired program while the supplement part is being received, the outline part is reproduced while the outline part is being received, and the reproduction of the outline part is continued while the supplemental part is being received until the reproduction of the outline part is completed.

Independent claim 1 and the corresponding method claim

24 have been amended to emphasize these features of the present invention which are illustrated in Figs. 6A-B of the present application, for example.

An advantage of these features of the present invention is that a user of the terminal device can monitor, with a degraded quality, the desired program while the desired program is restored and stored in a hard disk, for example.

It is respectfully submitted that Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al. are silent about receiving an outline part first followed by a supplement part of a divided desired program, recombining the outline part and the supplement part to restore the desired program while the supplement part is being received, and reproducing the outline part while the outline part is being received and for continuing the reproduction of the outline part while the supplement part is being received until the reproduction of the outline part is completed.

Yurt et al., as conceded in the Office Action, is silent about any dividing means and the recombining means of Yurt et al. is merely a format converter and, although Enomoto et al. shows in Fig. 9 a separator for separating audio and video signals, Enomoto fails to show or suggest at least transmitting an outline part first followed by a supplement part to a terminal equipment and recombining the

outline part and the supplement part to restore the desired program while the supplement part is being received, and reproducing the outline part while the outline part is being received and for continuing the reproduction of the outline part while the supplement part is being received until the reproduction of the outline part is completed.

Accordingly, it is respectfully submitted that amended independent claims 1 and 24, and the claims depending therefrom, are patentably distinct over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 2 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. and in further view of Kitabatake.

Claim 2 depends from claim 1, which rejection over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Kitabatake that somehow could be combined with Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claim 2 is patentably distinct over Yurt et al., Enomoto et al., and Kitabatake.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 3 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. and

in further view of Kim.

Claim 3 depends from claim 1, which rejection over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Kim that somehow could be combined with Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claim 3 is patentably distinct over Yurt et al., Enomoto et al., and Kim.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 4 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. and in further view of Tsutsui et al.

Claim 4 depends from claim 1, which rejection over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Tsutsui et al. that somehow could be combined with Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claim 4 is patentably distinct over Yurt et al., Enomoto et al., and Tsutsui et al.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claim 5 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. and in further view of Tsuga et al.

Claim 5 depends from claim 1, which rejection over Yurt

et al. in view of Enomoto et al. has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Tsuga et al. that somehow could be combined with Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claim 5 is patentably distinct over Yurt et al., Enomoto et al., and Tsuga et al.

Reconsideration is respectfully requested of the rejection of claims 7 and 8 under 35 USC 103(a), as being unpatentable over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. and in further view of Schoen et al..

Claims 7 and 8 depend from claim 1, which rejection over Yurt et al. in view of Enomoto et al. has been addressed above and, because there are no features in Schoen et al. that somehow could be combined with Yurt et al. and Enomoto et al. and result in the presently claimed invention, it is respectfully submitted that claims 7 and 8 are patentably distinct over Yurt et al., Enomoto et al., and Schoen et al..

Entry of this amendment is earnestly solicited, and it is respectfully submitted that the amendments made to the claims hereby raise no new issues requiring further consideration and/or search, because all of the features of this invention have clearly been considered by the examiner in the prosecution of this application and because the

present amendments serve only to further define and emphasize the novel features of this invention.

Favorable reconsideration is earnestly solicited.

Respectfully submitted,
COOPER & DUNHAM, LLP

Jay M. Maioli
Reg. No. 27,213

JHM/PCF:tl

VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADE

IN THE CLAIMS

Please amend claims 1 and 24 by rewriting same to read as follows, and cancel claims 9-23, without prejudice or disclaimer.

--1. (Three Times Amended) A data distribution system including an information service center and terminal equipment remote from the information service center and adapted for distributing a program selected at the terminal equipment from the information service center to the terminal equipment, the information service center comprising:

storage means for storing a plurality of programs;

retrieving means for retrieving a desired program selected at the terminal equipment from the plurality of programs stored in the storage means;

dividing means for dividing the desired program retrieved by the retrieving means into an outline part for informing a user of an outline of the desired program and into a supplement part recombinable with the outline part for restoring the desired program; and

transmission means for transmitting the outline part [and] first followed by the supplement part [thereafter] to

the terminal equipment; and

the terminal equipment comprising:

receiving means for receiving the outline part [and] first followed by the supplement part of the desired program transmitted from the information service center;

a storage device;

recombining means for recombining the outline part and the supplement part to restore the desired program while the supplement part is being received by the receiving means and for storing the restored program in the storage device while the supplement part is being received; and

reproducing means for reproducing the outline part [for monitoring] while the outline part is being received and for continuing the reproduction of the outline part while the supplement part is being received until the reproduction of the outline part is completed, thereby monitoring the desired program while the recombining means restores the desired program.

--24. (Three Times Amended) A method of distributing a program between an information service center and terminal equipment remote from the information service center, comprising the steps of:

dividing a desired program selected at the terminal

equipment into an outline part for informing a user of an outline of the desired program and into a supplement part recombinable with the outline part for restoring the desired program;

transmitting the outline part [and] first followed by the [divided] supplement part [thereafter] to the terminal equipment;

receiving at the terminal equipment the outline part [and] first followed by the supplement part of the desired program distributed from the information service center;

recombining the [received] outline part and the [received] supplement part to restore the desired program while the supplement part is being received; [and]

storing the restored program while the supplement part is being received; and

reproducing the outline part [for monitoring by the user] while the outline part is being received and for continuing the reproduction of the outline part while the supplement part is being received until the reproduction of the outline part is completed, thereby monitoring the desired program while the desired program is being restored.--